(d) what are the contents of the approval granted in favour of M/s. US West India and also the policy decision of the Department in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. Only a letter of intent has been issued to M/s US West India Ltd. for a pilot project.

(b) National Telecom Policy provides for setting up of Pilot Projects in order to asses. New Technologies and management techniques. They are for a limited period only.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) In the letter of intent Government has expressed its willingness to grant a licence for a pilot project under the terms and conditions to be mutually agreed upon between DOT and M/s. US West India Ltd.

Criteria for awarding tenders for basic telephone services

1244. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria decided by the DOT for awarding tenders to be submitted by various prespectjve licences for basic telephone services;

(b) the weights given to individual criteria; and

(c) the steps taken by Government - to aviod litigation as happened in the case of last tender for Mobile Cellular Services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The bidder has to comply with technical, commercial and financial conditions. In addition levy to be paid to Government, "number of" Direct Exchange Lines to be commisuoned over a period of 12, 24 'and 36 months, member of village public telephones to be provided as a percentage of Direct Exchange Lines, value of indigenous equipment to be used in the network for first three years and value of total equipment to be used in the network for first three years, will be the evaluation parameters.

(b) Weightage for parameters has not been announced.

(c) Government have tried to simplify the tender conditions.

Criteria for awarding bid for cellular mobile service

1245. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(.a) the maximum number of circles/ service areas which one bidder company would/can be awarded or both the basic telephone services and cellular mobile services;

(b) the criteria for deciding the maximum number of circles to be awarded to a bidder company; and

(c) the basis for deciding/awarding specific circles, in case the bidder company is eligible/successful in bagging more than the maximum, prescribed circles to be .awarding.to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM); (a) No such limit is fixed.

(b) and (c) In order to ensure that monopoly conditions do not develop, Government may restrict the maximum number of circles and decide on the circles to be awardfed 'to one bidder. based upon bidders total networth and bidders preference.

नए टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों हेतु लक्ष्य

1246. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1994–95 के दौरान नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन जारी करने की संख्या का कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह लक्ष्य क्या था;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि चालू वर्ष के प्रथम नौ माहों में टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने की गति अति धीमी रही है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो दिसम्बर, 1994 के अन्त तक कुल कितने टेलीफोन कनेक्शन स्वीकृत किये गये ;

(ङ) स्वीकृत किये गये इन कनेक्शनों में से उन कनेक्शनों की संख्या कितनी है जो फरवरी, 1995 के प्रथम सप्ताह के अन्त तक वास्तव में चालू किये जा सकें हैं ;

(च) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने भविष्य में उपभोक्ताओं की मांग पर तुरन्त टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है ; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो यह क्षमता कब तक प्राप्त होने की संभावना है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) 1994-95 के दौरान 14.26 लाख टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य है ।

(ग) और (घ) जी, नहीं । दिसम्बर, 1994 तक 7.7 लाख टेलीफोन कनेक्शन मंजूर किये गये ।

(ङ) ओ.बी. जारी करने के बाद टेलीफोन प्रदान करने के लिये मार्ग निर्देश इस प्रकार है:—

बहुएक्सचेंज प्रणालियों में–	30 दिन
एकल एक्सचेंज प्रणाली में–	15 दिन

तथापि, कुछ मामलों में टेलीफोन प्रदान करने में तकनीकी अव्यवहारिता के कारण विलंब हो सकता है ।

(च) और (छ) राष्ट्रीय दूरसंचार नीति में देश भर में 1997 तक मांग पर टेलीफोन प्रदान करने की परिकल्पना की गई है ।

Disc-read Memory Telephone Directories

1247. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(.a) whether the Department of Telecommunications proposes to introduce Compact Disc-read Memory telephone directories in certain cities of country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, with, the estimated cost of such facility;

(c) whether subscribers will be benefited with this facility;

(d) if so, the details thereof, with the procedure to avail of this facility;

(c) whether Government propose 40 extent this facility in North Eastern States, espacially in Mizoram, and

(f) is so, the details thereof and if not, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (.SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Withdrawal of MNCs from investment to the telecom sector

1248. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several multinational companies which had planned to make major investment in In lian telecom sector are now withdrawing due to stringent conditions imposed in tender;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a condition has been imposed on the overseas bidder not to have more than one local partner, and if so, the rationale of this policy decision; and